



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 2860
Shunichi SHIOZAWA et al. : Docket No. 2001_1298A
Serial No. 09/936,989 : Group Art Unit 1655
Filed October 30, 2001 : Examiner C. Myers

RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS GENE AND METHOD
FOR DIAGNOSING RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

This is responsive to the Official Action dated January 16, 2002, the time for responding thereto being extended for one month in accordance with a petition for extension submitted concurrently herewith.

The Official Action constitutes a requirement for restriction.

Applicants elect to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-3 and 9.

Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Shunichi SHIOZAWA et al.

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